Appl. No. 10/672.869 Art Unit: 3724 Amendment dated August 31, 2004 Reply to Office Action of July 02, 2004

REMARKS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed, and reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim in view of Ai. The Examiner has stated that Kim fails to disclose a torsion spring mounted to the braking block having a first end abutting against the body and a second end abutting against the actuator and a recess defined in one side of the braking block for receiving the torsion spring. However, Ai teaches a torsion spring mounted to the braking block (54) having a first end abutting against the body (512) and a second end abutting against the actuator (Fig. 4) and recess defined in one side of the braking block for receiving the torsion spring (Fig. 5).

This is incorrect. The body disclosed by Kim is an assembly of sheet metal parts and has no through hole for partially receiving the threaded rod such that the threaded rod is in an unstable condition during operating. In addition, Applicant respectfully urges that the braking block disclosed by Ai does not concern to a threaded rod and the second end of the torsion spring does not abut against the actuator. The braking block (thumb latch) is provided to downward engage to a top surface of a pressing plate 3. Ai disclosed that the thumb latch (53) uses the cam-type corrugated surface (531) to gradually clamp the pressing plate (3) not to the threaded rod and the thumb latch (53) only operated by manpower. The function and the structure of the thumb latch (53) are greatly different from the braking block of the Application. Furthermore,

, a clamping device (vise) of a cutting machine usually laterally clamps the workpiece for a convenient operation, such as feeding. In addition, the bracket 51 of Ai needs to inwardly form with a pressing plate 512 by punching in one of the selected side walls, one end of the torsion spring 54 is pushing against the thumb latch 53 and the other end of the torsion spring 54 is pushing against the pressing plate 512 of the bracket 51 (column 2, lines 38-40 and lines 53-56). However, the pressing plate 512 is unnecessary to the current application because a through hole is defined in the body for the threaded rod extending through the body and the second end of the torsion spring directly abutting against the body over the through hole. One skilled in the art viewing Ai would not

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be motivated to dispose a torsion spring and a pressing plate for the torsion spring between the body and the braking block disclosed by Kim. In the absence of such suggestion or motivation, Applicant respectfully urges that a determination of non-obviousness is require for amended claim 1 and claim 3 by virtue of its dependence on amended claim 1.

In view of the remarks presented above, Applicant respectfully submits that the amended claims 1, 3 are in a condition for allowance and requests a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. An early Office Action to that effect is therefore, earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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